

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUANDA 00889 171225Z

46

ACTION AF-07

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FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2998

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

UNCLAS LUANDA 889

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT AO

SUBJ: FNLA DELEGATION ARRIVED IN LUANDA

1. AN FNLA DELEGATION HEADED BY MINISTER OF INFORMATION HENDRIK VAAL NETO ARRIVED IN LUANDA OCTOBER 16 TO DISCUSS ARRANGEMENTS FOR A DEFINITIVE CEASE FIRE AND TO SET THE STAGE FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON INDEPENDENCE THROUGH THE CREATION OF A PERMANENT OFFICE IN LUANDA. AN OFFICIAL ZAIRIAN MISSION HEADED BY PRESIDENTIAL COUNSELOR BULA MATAMBA ACCOMPANIED THE FNLA GROUP.

2. IN AN ARRIVAL STATEMENT VAAL NETO SAID THAT THE PRESENCE IN ANGOLA OF AN OFFICIAL FNLA DELEGATION STEMS FROM PORTUGAL'S RECOGNITION OF ANGOLA'S RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND INDEPENDENCE. EVERY PERSON WHO IS AN ANGOLAN, HE SAID, OR WHO CONSIDERS HIMSELF AN ANGOLAN, SHOULD RELEGATE THE PAST TO HISTORY AND BEGIN TO BUILD THE FUTURE.

3. WITH RESPECT TO COORDINATION WITH THE OTHER ANGOLAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, VAAL NETO SAID THAT THE FNLA IS READY TO FORM A
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PAGE 02 LUANDA 00889 171225Z

COMMON FRONT WITH OTHER GROUPS. HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE

MPLA WOULD SOON RESOLVE ITS INTERNAL DIFFERENCES AND ADDED THAT THE FNLA IS PREPARED TO WORK WITH UNITA, IF UNITA IS SO DISPOSED. AS FOR THE PARTIES AND MOVEMENTS FORMED AFTER APRIL 25, VAAL NETO SAID THAT MOST OF THEM ARE OPPORTUNISTIC IN NATURE. ANGOLA ALREADY HAS THREE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AND IT WOULD BE CATASTROPHIC, HE SAID, TO PERMIT GROUPS WITH NO REAL FOLLOWING TO JOIN IN A COMMON FRONT. ALL WHO BELIEVE THEMSELVES TO BE ANGOLANS SHOULD JOIN ONE OF THE THREE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, HE CONCLUDED.

4. ON THE RECENT VISIT OF FERNANDO FALCAO TO KINSHASA, VAAL NETO SAID THAT HE HAD READ IN THE PRESS OF FALCAO'S PRESENCE IN ZAIRE, BUT THAT HE KNEW OF NO CONTACT BETWEEN FALCAO AND THE FNLA OR BETWEEN FALCAO AND THE ZAIRE GOVERNMENT.

5. THE PRESIDENT OF THE ANGOLAN JUNTA, ADMIRAL ROSA COUTINHO, AND SENIOR MINISTER FERNANDO FALCAO RECEIVED THE FNLA DELEGATION TO CONTINUE THE DISCUSSIONS THAT BEGAN IN KINSHASA. WE SHALL PROVIDE DETAILS AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE.

6. THE ZAIRIAN MISSION IS INTERESTED IN FOUR PRINCIPAL ASPECTS OF RELATIONS WITH ANGOLA: THE OPENING OF A CONSULATE IN LUANDA; REESTABLISH AIR CONNECTIONS BETWEEN ZAIRE AND ANGOLA; PROMOTE TOURIST EXCHANGES; AND THE PURCHASE OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODSTUFFS FROM ANGOLA.

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